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England. The average collector has to choose not between pressing the fern and growing it, but between pressing it and leaving it with considerable chance at times that it may not be there when he returns. The reclaiming of land for cultivation, or for dwellings, or the trampling of cattle are frequent causes of the disappearance of all sorts of wild treasures. The transplanting of ferns liable to destruction in this manner would not necessarily save them, for back-yard culture of ferns is seldom successful unless special pains are taken to transplant also large amounts of soil at the same time, and even with this precaution failures are numerous.

Certainly it is much to be regretted that more members of the Fern Society are not interested in fern growing here in America, and it is to be hoped that all who have facilities will work to develop collections of living ferns and will make themselves known so that other less fortunate members may know where they can send living plants with a reasonable chance that they will be preserved. It should be most strongly emphasized, however, that any indiscriminate criticism, especially as regards any specific herbarium collection, is entirely without justification. Charges of vandalism should not be made unless backed by detailed proofs.

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### **American Fern Society**

Changed address: Fermen L. Pickett, Pullman, Washington. Prof. S. Fred Prince, Notch, Stone Co., Mo.

New Members: Franklin A. Barnes, Bellona, Yates Co., N. Y.; Major Herman Burgin, U. S. A., 63 West Cheltenham Ave., Germantown, Pa.; Mrs. Ethelwyn F. Merrill, Northwood Narrows, N. H.

By order of the Council, a full set of the FERN JOURNAL has been deposited with the Secretary and will be loaned to members on request and payment of postage, in the same manner as the specimens in the Society herbarium. The first three volumes of the JOURNAL have been bound together and weigh, when packed for mailing, about two and one-half pounds. It is hoped that this lending set will be, as time goes on, an increasing convenience to recent members who do not have the earlier numbers. Perhaps it may also serve to suggest to them the desirability of owning a set.

At present, the Society possesses only one number of its former organ, the Fern Bulletin—and that one it owes to the generosity of Miss Mirick. It is desirable that we should have a full set, as a matter of record. If any member knows of an opportunity to acquire one, the Secretary will be grateful for information about it.

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In accordance with the requirements of our present constitution I immediately upon its adoption appointed a committee to nominate candidates for officers for the Society for 1915. The committee appointed was Mr. Robert A. Ware, Boston, Mass., Dr. D. W. Fellows, Portland, Maine, and Mr. H. G. Rugg, Hanover, N. H. As soon as the list of nominations was received from this committee it was given to the secretary for printing and mailing to all members. Miss Pauline Kaufman, New York City, was appointed judge of elections to whom votes were to be sent.

C. H. BISSELL, *President*.

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#### REPORT OF THE JUDGE OF ELECTIONS.

To the Secretary of the American Fern Society:

The undersigned, Judge of Elections by appointment of President Charles H. Bissell, respectfully presents the

following report of the balloting for officers of the American Fern Society for 1915:

Whole number of ballots.....81

*For President*

Mr. Chas. H. Bissell.....58  
Prof. A. Vincent Osmun.....23

*For Secretary*

Mr. Chas. A. Weatherby....56  
Mr. Stewart H. Burnham....25

*For Vice-president*

Rev. John Davis.....55  
Mr. Harold W. Pretz.....25  
Miss Nellie Mirick..... 1

*For Treasurer*

Mr. Fred G. Floyd.....56  
Mr. J. C. Underwood:.....24

I therefore declare the elction of Mr. Chas. H. Bissell as President, Rev. John Davis as Vice-president, Mr. Chas. A. Weatherby as Secretary, and Mr. Fred G. Floyd as Treasurer, of the American Fern Society for 1915.

PAULINE KAUFMAN.

No. 173 East 124th St., New York City.

Nov. 1, 1914.

### American Fern Society Meeting

A meeting of the American Fern Society will be held at Philadelphia on December 28th and 29th, 1914, at the Academy of Natural Sciences, 1900 Race Street. The exercises will open on Monday December 29th, at 8:00 o'clock, p. m., with a paper by Mr. P. C. Standley, on "The Ferns of New Mexico," followed by a symposium on "Fern Hybrids," led by Mr. Bissell and others and illustrated by specimens from the Society and private herbaria. Members are urged to meet for dinner at six o'clock at the Bourse Building Restaurant, eighth floor, corner of Fifth and Chestnut Streets, on Monday evening the 28th. On Tuesday, December 29th, at 10:00 a. m., will be an exhibit of specimens with talks on local ferns by members of the society. It is planned to have on exhibition specimens of as many as

possible of the new species, and forms that have recently been described in the JOURNAL. Any members having specimens of new or rare things that they are willing to loan the Society for exhibition are requested to send them to Mr. James G. Scott, 123 West Price Street, Germantown, Pa., who, as chairman of the local committee of arrangements, will care for the specimens and look out for their proper return. The opportunity to meet other members of our Society in this way comes so seldom that it is hoped all who possibly can will be in attendance.

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